the member during the lunch interval so that he can make a close study of it.

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla I*): Sir, the member is referred to certain pages in the Gazette. If he wants that information, he should buy that portion of the Gazette. Does the member mean that he should do so?

PRESIDENT: The member need not think so. The President thinks so.

Export duty on cocoanut products.

94. *MR. K. SANKARAN (*Karthikapalli I*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) what action, if any, they have taken on the recommendation of the Assembly to abolish the export duty on cocoanut products and

(*b*) if they have vetoed the recommendation, the reason for doing so?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): (*a*) The export duty on some of the products of the cocoanut tree has been reduced.

(*b*) The recommendation was not vetoed, but has been partly accepted.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*): May I know the products of the cocoanut tree on which export duty has not been reduced?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Coir and coir yarn.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*): May I know why it was not reduced on these articles?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Because there was no fall in the price of these articles.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*): Is it the view of the Government that the price of coir and other articles is remaining same as it was before?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): At the time of the revision of the tariff value, the prices of coir and coir yarn were higher than what they were before.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*): May I know whether, subsequent to that, the prices of these articles have fallen down?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): No; it has not appreciably fallen down.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*): Has it fallen down to some extent at least?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): No, it has not fallen.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*): So the price remains the same?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Yes.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*): May I know the reason why the export duty on all the products was not reduced?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : For financial reasons. Government cannot lose all the income from the export duty.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*) : Have the Government considered the question of the sufferings of the people on account of the fall in the price of cocoanut?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : Government have realised the sufferings of the people and they have done all that they can possibly do to alleviate their suffering.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*) : Is it the member's opinion that there is no reason to reduce the rate?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : There is no reason to reduce it.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*) : May I know from the member whether the Government propose to increase it?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : No, it is not the present idea of Government.

PRESIDENT : Not yet.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : May I know from the member whether there is not less demand from European countries?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : Yes, in some countries the demand is small. But the market price has not fallen.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : May I know whether there is an attempt being made to find out a substitute for the coir yarn in the outside market?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : Sir, in some countries they may find substitutes.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : May I know from the Government whether, if and when countries outside are to find substitutes for coir yarn, our cottage industry will flourish?

PRESIDENT : That is *after* the substitute has been discovered. The question is hypothetical.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : Sir, the member said "they have found substitutes".

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): I said "they may find substitutes".

Enhancement of the import duty on cocoanut products.

95. *MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil II*): Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether they have drawn the attention of the Government of India to the necessity of increasing the duty on cocoanut and cocoanut products imported into India ; and

(*b*) if so, what the result was of that attempt?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The matter is still under the consideration of the Government of India.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly